



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/480,986	01/10/2000	MICHAEL BOLOTSKI	18035-001010	5021

20350 7590 07/28/2003

TOWNSEND AND TOWNSEND AND CREW, LLP
TWO EMBARCADERO CENTER
EIGHTH FLOOR
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94111-3834

[REDACTED] EXAMINER

PIZIALI, JEFFREY J

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2673	18

DATE MAILED: 07/28/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/480,986	BOLOTSKI ET AL.	
Period for Reply	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Jeff Piziali	2673	
-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --			
A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. - If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely. - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). - Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b). 			
Status			
1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>12 May 2003</u> .			
2a) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This action is FINAL. 2b) <input type="checkbox"/> This action is non-final.			
3) <input type="checkbox"/> Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under <i>Ex parte Quayle</i> , 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.			
Disposition of Claims			
4) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Claim(s) <u>1-25</u> is/are pending in the application.			
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.			
5) <input type="checkbox"/> Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.			
6) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Claim(s) <u>1-25</u> is/are rejected.			
7) <input type="checkbox"/> Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.			
8) <input type="checkbox"/> Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.			
Application Papers			
9) <input type="checkbox"/> The specification is objected to by the Examiner.			
10) <input type="checkbox"/> The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) <input type="checkbox"/> accepted or b) <input type="checkbox"/> objected to by the Examiner. Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).			
11) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The proposed drawing correction filed on <u>12 March 2002</u> is: a) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> approved b) <input type="checkbox"/> disapproved by the Examiner. If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.			
12) <input type="checkbox"/> The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.			
Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120			
13) <input type="checkbox"/> Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f). a) <input type="checkbox"/> All b) <input type="checkbox"/> Some * c) <input type="checkbox"/> None of: 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Certified copies of the priority documents have been received. 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____. 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)). * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.			
14) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application). a) <input type="checkbox"/> The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.			
15) <input type="checkbox"/> Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.			
Attachment(s)			
1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)		4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ .	
2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)		5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)	
3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ .		6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ .	

DETAILED ACTION

Drawings

1. The proposed drawing correction and/or the proposed substitute sheets of drawings, filed on 12 March 2002 have been approved. A proper drawing correction or corrected drawings are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The correction to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

2. The Patent and Trademark Office no longer makes drawing changes. See 1017 O.G. 4. It is applicant's responsibility to ensure that the drawings are corrected. Corrections must be made in accordance with the instructions below.

INFORMATION ON HOW TO EFFECT DRAWING CHANGES

1. Correction of Informalities -- 37 CFR 1.85

New corrected drawings must be filed with the changes incorporated therein. Identifying indicia, if provided, should include the title of the invention, inventor's name, and application number, or docket number (if any) if an application number has not been assigned to the application. If this information is provided, it must be placed on the front of each sheet and centered within the top margin. If corrected drawings are required in a Notice of Allowability (PTOL-37), the new drawings **MUST** be filed within the **THREE MONTH** shortened statutory period set for reply in the "Notice of Allowability." Extensions of time may NOT be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 for filing the corrected drawings after the mailing of a Notice of Allowability. The drawings should be filed as a separate paper with a transmittal letter addressed to the Official Draftsperson.

2. Corrections other than Informalities Noted by Draftsperson on form PTO-948.

All changes to the drawings, other than informalities noted by the Draftsperson, **MUST** be made in the same manner as above except that, normally, a highlighted (preferably red

ink) sketch of the changes to be incorporated into the new drawings **MUST** be approved by the examiner before the application will be allowed. No changes will be permitted to be made, other than correction of informalities, unless the examiner has approved the proposed changes.

Timing of Corrections

Applicant is required to submit acceptable corrected drawings within the time period set in the Office action. See 37 CFR 1.185(a). Failure to take corrective action within the set (or extended) period will result in **ABANDONMENT** of the application.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

4. Claims 1-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by McKnight (US 6,144,353).

Regarding claim 1, McKnight discloses a method for operating a display having a plurality of pixels, comprising: applying a single transition voltage [Fig. 2C, 151] to the pixels [Fig. 2A, 208] on the display [Fig. 2A, 106] during a first period of time[Fig. 2C, t₁-t₂], each pixel including liquid crystal material having at least a first state [i.e. "dark"] and a second state [i.e. "bright"], wherein a transition of the liquid crystal material from the first state to the second state has an associated first transition time [Fig. 2C, t₁-t₂], wherein a transition of the liquid crystal material from the second state to the first state has an associated second transition time

[Fig. 2C, "0-t₀" or "t₂-t₃"], wherein the first transition time is longer than the second transition time, and wherein the single transition voltage induces liquid crystal material in each pixel to begin transitioning to the second state (see Column 10, Lines 1-40); thereafter while each pixel element is transitioning to the second state, applying a first paint voltage to a pixel [Fig. 2C, 151] during a second period of time[Fig. 2C, t₃-t₄], wherein the first paint voltage induces liquid crystal material in the pixel to a third state [i.e. the highest data defined intensity level in Fig. 2C] (see Column 10, Lines 1-40); waiting a predetermined time period; illuminating the pixel [Fig. 3A, 210]; applying the single transition voltage to the pixels [Fig. 3A, 212] on the display during a third period of time; thereafter applying a second paint voltage to the pixel [Fig. 3A, 214] during a fourth period of time, wherein the second paint voltage induces the liquid crystal material in the pixel to a fourth state [i.e. a second data defined brightness level]; waiting the predetermined time period; and illuminating the pixel [Figs. 3A-B, 216 & 218]; wherein the single transition voltage is between the first paint voltage and the second paint voltage (see Column 11, Line 26 - Column 12, Line 47).

Regarding claims 2, 10 and 18, McKnight discloses illuminating the pixel with an illumination source [Fig. 2A, 114] of first and second colors (see Column 9, Lines 24-28).

Regarding claims 3 and 11, McKnight discloses applying the single transition voltage to the pixels [Fig. 3B, 224] on the display during a fifth period of time, wherein the transition voltage induces liquid crystal material in each pixel to begin transitioning to the second state (see Fig. 2C, 154); thereafter applying a third paint voltage to the pixel [Fig. 3B, 222] during a sixth

period of time, wherein the third paint voltage induces the liquid crystal material in the pixel to a fifth state [i.e. third data defined brightness level]; waiting the predetermined time period; and illuminating the pixel [Fig. 3B, 226]; wherein comprising an illumination source [Fig. 2A, 114] of first, second and third colors (see Column 9, Lines 24-28).

Regarding claims 4, 12 and 19, McKnight discloses red, green and blue colors (see Column 9, Lines 24-28).

Regarding claim 5, McKnight discloses illuminating the pixel with an illumination source [Fig. 2A, 114] (see Column 9, Lines 16-43).

Regarding claims 6, 14 and 20, McKnight discloses applying the single transition voltage to all the pixels at one time while holding a common electrode [Fig. 2A, 108] at a constant value [Fig. 2C, 151 between t_1 and t_2] (see Column 10, Lines 1-50).

Regarding claims 7, 15 and 24, McKnight discloses applying the single transition voltage to a first row of pixels while holding a common electrode [Fig. 2A, 108] at a constant value [Fig. 2C, 151 between t_1 and t_2] (see Column 10, Lines 1-50), and thereafter applying the single transition voltage to a second row of pixels while holding a common electrode at a constant value [Fig. 2C, 151 between t_5 and t_6] (see Column 11, Line 33 - Column 12, Line 12).

Regarding claims 8, 16, and 25, McKnight discloses applying the single transition voltage to a first column of pixels while holding a common electrode [Fig. 2A, 108] at a constant value [Fig. 2C, 151 between t₁ and t₂] (see Column 10, Lines 1-50), and thereafter applying the single transition voltage to a second column of pixels while holding a common electrode at a constant value [Fig. 2C, 151 between t₅ and t₆] (see Column 11, Line 33 - Column 12, Line 12).

Regarding claim 9, this claim is rejected under the reasoning applied in the above rejection of claim 1, furthermore, McKnight discloses a transaction circuit [Fig. 2A, 110] coupled to each pixel; a paint circuit [Fig. 2A, 102] coupled to the transaction circuit; a timer circuit [Fig. 2A, 112] coupled to the paint circuit; and an illumination circuit coupled to the timer circuit [Fig. 2A, 114 & 116] (see Column 9, Lines 16-43).

Regarding claim 13, McKnight discloses the illumination circuit comprises a monochromatic illumination source (see Column 9, Lines 24-25).

Regarding claim 17, this claim is rejected under the reasoning applied in the above rejection of claim 1, furthermore, McKnight discloses an initialization circuit [Fig. 2A, 110] coupled to the pixels; a driving circuit [Fig. 2A, 102] coupled to the initialization circuit; and an illumination circuit [Fig. 2A, 114 & 116] coupled to the driving circuit (see Column 9, Lines 16-43).

Regarding claim 21, McKnight discloses the initial voltage [Fig. 3A, 212] is between the first [Fig. 3A, 206] and second [Fig. 3A, 214] drive voltages (see Column 11, Line 33 - Column 12, Line 12).

Regarding claim 22, McKnight discloses a method for operating a display [Fig. 2A; 106] having a plurality of pixel elements [Fig. 2A; 104], the method comprising: applying a single transition voltage [Fig. 2C; 151] to the plurality of pixel elements to transition the pixel elements to a bright state; while the plurality of pixel elements are transitioning to the bright state [Fig. 2C; t_3-t_4], applying a drive voltage [Fig. 2C; 151 at t_3] to one pixel element of the plurality of pixel elements, thereafter waiting a predetermined time period; and thereafter illuminating [Fig. 2C, 155] the one pixel element (see Column 10, Lines 1-50).

Regarding claim 23, McKnight discloses applying the single transition voltage to all of the plurality of pixel elements at one time (see Fig. 2C; Column 10, Lines 1-50).

Response to Arguments

5. Applicants' arguments filed 12 May 2003 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. The applicants contend the cited prior art of McKnight fails to disclose loading pixel data while each pixel element is transitioning to the second state. The examiner must, however, respectfully disagree. McKnight does indeed teach applying a paint voltage [Fig. 2C, 151] to a pixel during a second period of time [Fig. 2C, t_3-t_4], wherein the paint voltage induces liquid crystal material in the pixel to a third state [i.e. the highest data defined intensity level illustrated

in Fig. 2C], while each pixel element is transitioning to the second state [i.e. a bright state] (see Column 10, Lines 1-50). By such above reasoning, the rejection of claims 1-25 is deemed proper and thereby maintained.

Conclusion

6. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Art Unit: 2673

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jeff Piziali whose telephone number is (703) 305-8382. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday (6:30AM - 3PM).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Bipin Shalwala can be reached on (703) 305-4938. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 872-9314 for regular communications and (703) 872-9314 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-4700.



JP
July 27, 2003



BIPIN SHALWALA
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600